[22nd December 1949

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" I draw the attention of the hon. Member to my answer to clause (*e*)."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know when the mills got into production after they were purchased by the Government? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" I have not got the exact date here. I think it was after a few months after we took over. Machinery had to be repaired, the boilers had to be overhauled and one boiler had to be specially repaired and all that took some time and if I remember aright it took us about four or five months. After taking over and after all these things had been done, it started manufacturing small quantities and we have gone on increasing production."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" If, on account of two shifts, the mills are able to produce four tons, how is it that the Government believe that they will be able to produce ten tons with three shifts, which is proportionately much larger than what they produce with two shifts? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" That is what we are assured by our technical personnel there, Sir."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Are the Government satisfied that the production for the two shifts is satisfactory? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" It is not quite satisfactory, Sir."

Admissions to the Medical Colleges.

* 62 *Q*.—SRI B. BHIMA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that a deputation of the South Indian Provincial Branch of the Indian Medical Association waited on the Hon. Premier and represented that a certain percentage of admissions into Medical Colleges should be made on merit only;

(*b*) if so, whether the Government have decided to effect any changes in the present system of admissions which is prevailing since April 1947 and if so, to what effect; and

(*c*) what percentage has been fixed by the Government with regard to admissions on merit?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" (*a*) Yes.

" (*b*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to clause (*a*) of Legislative Council Question No. 4 (starred);

" (*c*) No percentage has been fixed specifically for admission based on merit; but, it has been decided that if there are any vacancies due to want of suitable candidates from certain particular communities, such vacancies should be filled according to merit subject to the condition that the regional and district quotas are not affected."

22nd December 1949]

Sri B. BHIMA RAO :—" At least in the case of lady candidates would not the present system of admissions be revised so that all ladies who apply for admission may be admitted? "

The Hon. Dr. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Unless the hon. Member means to say that ladies should have all the preference and no question of merits shall apply to their case, we may not be able to consider his proposition; but I thought that the hon. Member was more interested in merit than on the sole question of sex only."

Sri B. BHIMA RAO :—" Though I am interested in the question of admission on merit, still I find that in the case of lady candidates, they are made victims of communal admissions and last year I saw two ladies only of a particular community were admitted into two different colleges; at least would this discrimination stop in the case of lady candidates? "

The Hon. Dr. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" There is no special discrimination in favour of lady candidates as such."

Sri M. NARAYANA MENON :—" May I know, Sir, how merit has been defined? "

The Hon. Dr. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I would refer the hon. Member to a suitable dictionary."

Sri M. NARAYANA MENON :—" Would the psychiatric test be applied to the applicants for consideration of merit? "

The Hon. Dr. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" If the hon. Member defines merit as he understands it, I will be able to understand the meaning of the question; as it is, I do not understand the question."

Sri R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Did considerations of merit which the Hon. Minister stated apply to admissions for 1949–50? "

The Hon. Dr. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Yes, Sir."

Ayacut under the Tungabhadra Project.

* 63 *Q.*—Sri R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the extent of wet and dry irrigation provided under the Tungabhadra Project is;

(*b*) what the length of the main canal and of the subsidiary canals provided is;

(*c*) what the progress so far made in the construction of the dam and the main canal is;

(*d*) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to increase the wet ayacut under the project;

(*e*) if the answer to (*d*) is in the affirmative, whether any decision has been arrived at;

(*f*) whether increase of acreage under wet ayacut necessitates realignment of the main canal;